

**873—4.20(86) Prehearing procedure.** A deputy commissioner or the industrial commissioner may order parties in the case to either appear before the commissioner or a deputy commissioner for a conference, or communicate with the commissioner or the commissioner's designee and with each other in any manner as may be prescribed to consider, so far as applicable to the particular case:

**4.20(1)** The necessity or desirability of amending pleadings by formal amendment or prehearing order;

**4.20(2)** Agreeing to admissions of facts, documents or records not really controverted, to avoid unnecessary proof;

**4.20(3)** Limiting the number of witnesses;

**4.20(4)** Settling any facts of which the commissioner or deputy commissioner is to be asked to take official notice;

**4.20(5)** Stating and simplifying the factual and legal issues to be determined;

**4.20(6)** Specifying the items and amounts of compensation claimed;

**4.20(7)** Specifying all proposed exhibits and proof thereof;

**4.20(8)** Consolidation, separation for hearing, and determination of points of law;

**4.20(9)** Specifying all witnesses expected to testify;

**4.20(10)** Possibility of settlement;

**4.20(11)** Filing of advance briefs, if any;

**4.20(12)** Setting or altering dates for completion of discovery or completion of medical evidence by each party;

**4.20(13)** Any other matter which may facilitate, expedite, or simplify any contested case.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 86.17 and 86.18.